MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, you never allow our second supplementary when we want it.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If Madam is opposed to the interests and welfare of labour, I have no objection. I keep quiet....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir.

When the Singareni Collieries was nationalised, it had 95 working mines plus 17. After the nationalisation, 17 have been closed. Will the hon. Minister tell us whether he has any plans to reopen them, either by denationalisation or by opening them on his own, or will they be closed forever?

SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK: Sir, I am sure the hon. Member knows the economic problems of SCCL. As far as the closed mines are concerned, the reserves have been exhausted. So, it is not practical to open those closed mines.

Thank you, Sir.

श्री गया सिंहः माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जैसे कि कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि यह कोलियरी सिर्फ आन्ध्र प्रदेश के लिए ही नहीं बल्कि पूरे दक्षिण भारत के लिए बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। एन०टी०पी०सी० और रेलवे दोनों इसमें इनवाल्व्ड हैं और दोनों के लिए यह महत्वपूर्ण है। इसलिए लोग आपसे, भारत सरकार से यह एश्योरेंस चाहते हैं, जैसे कि आपने जवाब दिया कि कुछ लोन और इंटेरेस्ट को वेव करेंगे, क्या आप अपनी इक्विटी को बढ़ा कर रिस्ट्रक्चर करने की किसी योजना पर विचार करा रहे हैं?

SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK: Sir, there has been restructuring earlier, which the hon. Member knows. This company has gone to the BIFR. Restructuring is going on at the moment as well.

Thank you.

Power Projects in Tamil Nadu

*244. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) how many power projects have been approved in the private sector as well as in the public sector for Tamil Nadu during the last two years;

(b) how many projects are pending and how many are in implementation stage; and

(c) what are their names and details?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARMANGALAM): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Four power projects in the private sector and none in the public sector in Tamil Nadu were accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central electricity Authority during the last two years i.e. 1997-98 and 1998-99. The details are as follows:—

S. No.	Name of Project/ Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date on which TEC accorded
1.	Tuticorin TPP St. IV(525) (M/s SPIC Electric Power Corporation Ltd.)	10/96, 12/96	1.6.1997
2.	Samayanallur DGPP (106) (M/s Balaji Power Corpn. Limited)	09/96	20.01.1999
3.	Samalpatti DGPP (106) (M/s Samalpatti Power Co.)	01/97	20.01.1998
4.	North Madras TPP St. III (525) (M/s Tri-Sakthi Energy Private Limited)	09/96	30.07.1998

Two projects were accorded techno-economic clearance during 1999-2000, (upto 30.11.1999) which are given below:—

S. No.	Name of Project/ Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date on which TEC accorded
1.	Cuddalore TPP (1320) (M/s Cuddalore Power Co.)	11/96	08.04.1999 12.08.1999
2.	Vembar CCGT (LNG) (1873) (M/s India Power Proj. Ltd.)	02/99	24.04.1999

Separately, two projects in the private sector, namely Pillaiperumal Nallur CCGT (330.5 MW) and Neyveli Lignite TPP (1×250 MW) achieved financial closure in December, 1998 and November, 1999, respectively.

As on 30.11.1999, only one private sector project is under examination in Central Electricity Authority, namely Srimushnam Lignite TPP (250 MW).

There are 15 power projects under implementation stage, out of which 6 are in public sector and 9 in private sector. The details of these projects are given below.

THERMAL

CENTRAL SECTOR:

S. No.	Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	Neyveli TPS-I	2×210
STATE SECTOR:		
1.	Kovilkalappal CCPP	107.8
2.	Narimanam DGPP	1×5
3.	Basin Bridge Waste Heat Recovery Units.	2×30

S. No.	Name of Project/ Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date on which TEC accorded
PRIVATE SECTOR:			
1.	Neyveli Zero TPS		250
2.	Tuticorin TPP Stage IV.		525
3.	Samayanallur DGPP		106
4.	Samalpatti DGPP		105.66
5.	Pillaiperumalnallur CCGT		330.5
6.	North Madras TPP St. II		
	Unit-I		525
	Unit-II		525
7.	North Madras St. III		525
8.	Cuddalore TPS		1320
9.	Vembar CCPT		1873
HYDEL			
STATE SECTOR:			
1.	Parson's Valley		1×30
2.	Pykara Ultimate		3×50

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Sir, I am very nappy that the hon. Minister has been interest in the power projects all over India, particularly those of Tamil Nadu. The Minister comes from my State. I am very satisfied by his written answer.

The hon. Minister says that four power projects in the private sector and none in the public sector in Tamil Nadu were accorded clearance. May I know from the Minister why no power project has been envisaged in the public sector? Is there any proposal to envisage power projects in the public sector in the near future?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I am grateful for the confidence shown in me by the hon. Member. But I must pointout to him that two mega projects are lines up for Tamil Nadu. One is at Cheyyur, which is a 1,000-megawatt project based on coal with 500 megawatt expansion later. The other one is Cuddalore, which is, of course, a private project but a mega project of 1,500 megawatts. The

Cheyyur project has obtained tne CRZ clearance. It has been recommended by the Government of Tamil Nadu, and it is now pending before the National CRZ Authority. The department of Power has addressed a letter to the CRZ Authority, and I expect an early clearance. As soon as that clearance comes, we will apply to the CEA for approvals. This project has got all the exemptions that mega projects have got. It will be a project that will give reasonably priced power for Tamil Nadu.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Under which region?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANAGALAM: Cheyyur.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: My second supplementary is: By which date Sreemushman Lignite Project will be cleared by the CEA? Fifteen power projects are under implementation. By which date will they be in a position to supply electricity to consumers? The hon. Minister knows that electricity is very essential for the economic development of the country.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I think the hon. Member requires a detailed answer. I can give him a detailed answer about the position of the fifteen projects.

With regard to the first one in the State sector i.e. Kovilkalappal CCPP, which is a gas-based project, commissioning schedule is expected in September 2,000. That is a 30 megawatts project.

Then we have Narimanam project, which is being given up because it is economically not viable. It is a five megawatts-small-project.

The Basin bridge project, which is a 60 megawatts project, is also not found viable by the State Government.

Now, I come to the private sector projects, Neyveli Zero TPS is expected in 34 months from today. It has achieved financial closure.

With regard to the Tuticorin TPP Stage IV, it is expected in 39 months from the date it achieves financial closure. It is expected to achieve financial closure by March, 2000.

Samayanallur DGPP is expected in 17 months from the date of its financial closure. Since it has achieved the financial closure, I should say it is expected in 17 months from now. That is a 106 megawatts project.

Samalpatti is a 105 megawatts project. It is again in the process of financial closure. So, it will take another 18 months from today.

Pillaiperumalanallur is expected by December 2000.

North Madras Tri-Sakthi has achieved financial closure a couple of months ago. So, it is expected in 35 months from today.

With regard to Cuddalore TPS, a lot of work is awaited, It is still not cleared.

With regard to Vembar, it is also in the same situation.

With regard to Cheyyur, about which I have suggested....

MR. CHAIRMAN: It would be better if you lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I can do so, but he wanted that I should give him the details.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But then it will take the whole hour.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAN: Srimushnam is pending, for information from the Tamil Nadu Government. As soon as it comes, it will be cleared.

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: Sir, the hon. Minister, in his statement, has stated that there are 15 power projects which are at the implementation stage. Out of these, six are in the public sector and nine in the private sector. I do not understand what he means by "implementation stage". I would like to know whether by 'implementation' he means that they are acutally being implemented, or he means to say that only the paper work is over and the projects have not been taken to the field.

I would also like to know whether the power supplied by the Neyveli power unit will be totally earmarked for consumption in Tamil Nadu, because the other adjacent States seem to be having power more than their requirement. Will he consider earmarking the power produced by the PPA units that are coming up at Neyveli only for consumption in Tamil Nadu? These are the two parts of my question.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I could not catch the first part of his question. With regard to the second part of the

question, I can say yes. The PPA is tying up with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. The hon. Member, I think, is referring to the Neyveli Zero Unit which has recently acheived financial closure and is under construction.

It regard to the first part of the question, is it that the hon. Member is asking me to interpret the work 'implementation'?

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: You said that the first project was cleared on 1.6.1997. I would like to know whether even a single unit of power has been produced by any of the units mentioned, which were cleared after 1997.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, the hon. Member is a quite knowledgeable person in regard to the power sector. He should know, when TEC is given in 1997, to expect the unit to produce power by 1999 is a miracle. Producing of power means, I should have commissioned the power plant and put the power into the grid. If, in two years, I can get that, when the coal-plant is completed, I must be a genius. The normal period is 36 months from the date of financial closure. Normally from the time TEC is given, you can add another six months. It would normally be 40 to 42 months. I can tell you, all these projects are in different stages of implementation. Some of them have acquired land, some have moved to the stage of placing orders for the EPC, some have moved much further. Therefore, each one of them is in different stages, depending on how the private promoters have been able to gather themselves together. Clearances have not been the problem. The problem, invariably, is financial closure, for which there is a difficulty in most States. But Tamil Nadu is the most advanced State, in the sense that it is one of the few States which has actually given escrow and achieved financial closure in the case of four power plants. Now, among these, if I may add, one power plant which was started was not a 1997 TEC, but it is much earlier TEC. It is the Basin Bridge power project.

श्री गांधी आजाद: महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो विवरण दिया है, उस में बताया गया है कि कुल परियोजनाओं में से केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में 1, राज्य क्षेत्र में 5 और निजी क्षेत्र में 9 परियोजनाएं हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि निजी क्षेत्र में जो परियोजनाएं चल रही हैं, उन में कुल कितने अधिकारी और कर्मचारी कार्यरत हैं और उस में अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति की क्या स्थिति है?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, to be very frank, I don't have the information with me right now. I will arrange to send it to him because, normally, we don't put this question. Since the hon. Member has raised it, I will arrange to send this answer to him.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am impressed by the number of power stations being put up, especially in the Southern Grid. But I must say it again—I have said it many times before — that there is no point in putting up big power stations unless the transmission and distribution are looked into at the first stage itself. The power cuts in South India are really frightful. People say that so much power has been produced, but we get 24 hour power cuts. The industry is using more and more diesel sets. It is an expensive way of producing power because foreign exchange is involved in importing diesel. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will give priority to the most important part of the electricity programme, that is, distribution and transmission? It is very weak and nothing has been done for several years. The Indian Institute of Science has taken up a special project to study as to why this is happening. But there is nobody to implement their finding. I have their report if the Minister wishes to have it, I will pass it on to him.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Member, if he sends me a copy of the report, I will look into it.

Sir, transmission and distribution of power is an arena where we are worrried about. In fact, in the last 30 years, we were weak on that side. The amount of investment we should have put in for transmission, sub-transmission and distribution of power has not been done. As a priority, for the last two years, we have put it on the top of our list. Every investment that we try to bring in, first, we try to see that it goes to the transmission, distribution sector. Today, no power plant is allowed even to achieve financial closure. Unless they are able to esnure by certification and by showing financial provision for evacuation of power, we are not giving clearance. We have made that a pre-condition which was not so earlier. Further, a generator has to pay liquidated damages of the total cost per day of the loss in the transmission. If the transmission line is constructed and

generators are ready, the vice-versa is happening; the liquidated damages are worked out between both to ensure coordination. I assure the House, we are looking at the problem. If the hon. Member sends me that report, it will be of great use to me. Thank you.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Though not entirely satisfactory, the progress of private power plants in Tamil Nadu is comparatively better than other States. They provide for bank guarantees, escrow provision, etc. Mr. Minister, now at this stage, what prevents you and the other States from making Tamil Nadu as a model State in generating power in the private sector expeditiously?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM; Sir, I think, the hon. Member is aware of the problem. We are in a federal structure. He had been the Minister of Power and he knows how helpless sometimes, the Union Minister of Power can be *vis-a-vis* the State Governments. However, I will follow his advice definitely and try to pass it on to the other States. What I am really worried is, they should not say that because it is my home State, I am trying to force the home State model on others. But Tamil Nadu has been the most sucessful State in generation of power in the private sector.

CAG report on National Drinking Water Mission

*245. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General of India has given a report on the working of National Drinking Water Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on C&AG's observation?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of Hosue.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (No. 3 of 1998) for the year ended March, 31, 1997, Chapter-VI of which reviews the implementation of National Drinking Water